

CLAIMS

I claim:

~~1. An artificial bait structure, comprising:~~

a head having a first forward end and a second, rearward end; and first and second legs projecting rearwardly from the rearward end of the head, each leg defined by a first inner edge and a second outer edge, and terminating at a rearward end.

2. The artificial bait structure of claim 1, further comprising a rib extending along an outer edge of each leg between the head and the rearward end of the leg.

102. The artificial bait structure of claim 1 wherein the head includes a first generally planar upper surface and an opposite, second, generally planar bottom surface.

11/A. The artificial bait structure of claim 2 wherein each leg has an upper surface lying in a common plane with the upper surface of the head and an opposite, generally planar bottom surface, and wherein the head has a thickness greater than that of the legs such that the bottom surface of the head is located below the bottom surfaces of the legs.

125. The artificial bait structure of claim 1 wherein each leg includes a generally planar upper surface, and an opposite, generally planar bottom surface.

22 6. The artificial bait structure of claim 5 wherein the bottom surface of each
leg includes a plurality of nipples projecting downwardly therefrom.

237. The artificial bait structure of claim 8 wherein each nipple projecting from the bottom surface of each leg lies in a row transverse to a longitudinal axis along which the leg extends.

8. The artificial bait structure of claim 7 wherein each nipple is generally cylindrical in shape.

29. The artificial bait structure of claim 8 wherein the upper surface of the head includes a plurality of nipples projecting upwardly therefrom.

~~25~~ 10. The artificial bait structure of claim ~~9~~ 31 wherein each nipple projecting from the upper surface of the head lies in a row transverse to a longitudinal axis along which the artificial bait structure extends.

11. The artificial bait structure of claim 10 wherein each nipple projecting from the upper surface of the head is generally cylindrical in shape.

²⁶12. The artificial bait structure of claim ²⁹²¹8 wherein the upper surface of each leg includes a plurality of nipples projecting upwardly therefrom.

²⁷13. The artificial bait structure of claim ²⁶12 wherein each nipple projecting from the upper surface of each leg lies in a row transverse to a longitudinal axis along which the leg extends.

¹⁴14. The artificial bait structure of claim 13 wherein each nipple projecting from the upper surface of each leg is generally cylindrical in shape.

²⁸15. The artificial bait structure of claim ^{wherein}8 wherein the head includes a first generally planar upper surface and an opposite, second, generally planar bottom surface, the upper surface of the head including a plurality of nipples projecting upwardly therefrom, and wherein the upper surface of each leg includes a plurality of nipples projecting upwardly therefrom.

¹³16. The artificial bait structure of claim ¹²4 wherein the bottom surface of each leg defines a shoulder adjacent the rearward end of the head.

~~17. The artificial bait structure of claim 1 wherein the inner edge of each leg includes a generally linear portion adjacent the rearward end of the leg, and a concave arcuate portion projecting toward the outer edge of the leg forwardly of the linear portion.~~

~~18. The artificial bait structure of claim 1 wherein the outer edge of each leg has a generally convex shape.~~

~~19. A fishing lure, comprising
a hook member having a generally straight shank extending along an axis, a tail section extending along a second axis, parallel to the axis of the shank, and a curved section interconnecting the shank and the tail section;~~

~~a head mounted on the hook member and having a first forward end and a second rearward end, the head including a first generally planar upper surface and an opposite, second, generally planar bottom surface, each surface lying in the plane parallel to the axis of the shank such that the first planar upper surface of the head is spaced from the tail section of the hook member; and~~

~~first and second legs projecting rearwardly from the rearward end of the head, each leg extending along an axis generally parallel to the axis of the shank member.~~

20. The fishing lure of claim 19 wherein each leg projecting rearwardly from the head is defined by a first inner edge and a second outer edge and terminates at a

rearward end, each leg further including generally planar upper surface, and a generally planar bottom surface.

21. The fishing lure of claim 20 further comprising a rib extending along an outer edge of each leg between the head and the rearward end of the leg.

22. The fishing lure of claim 19 further comprising a projection projecting rearwardly from the rearward end of each leg.

23. An artificial bait structure to be drawn through a body of water, comprising:
a head;

first and second legs projecting from the head, wherein the head and legs extend along a longitudinal axis; and

5 means projecting from each leg so as to cause lateral movement of each leg with respect to the longitudinal axis as the artificial bait structure is drawn through the body of water.

24. The artificial bait structure of claim 23 further comprising a means for facilitating movement of each leg in a direction transverse to the lateral movement of each leg as the artificial bait structure is drawn through the body of water.

25. The artificial bait structure of claim 23 wherein the head include a means for agitating the body of water as the artificial bait structure is drawn therethrough.

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26. An artificial bait structure, comprising:

a head defining a forward end of the artificial bait structure and having a thickness; and

5 a pair of legs extending rearwardly from the head, wherein the legs are configured such that each leg defines an outer edge located laterally outwardly relative to the head and such that the legs define facing inner edges, wherein the legs have a thickness less than that of the head.

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27. The artificial bait structure of claim 26, wherein each leg defines a rib at its outer edge having a thickness greater than that of the leg inwardly of the rib.

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28. The artificial bait structure of claim 27, wherein the leg inner edges define an arcuate opening located toward the head.

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